

10/532991

JC12 Re PCT/PTC 28 APR 2005

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.	:	To Be Assigned	Confirmation No. :
First Named Inventor	:	Mitsuhiro YUASA	
Filed	:	Concurrently Herewith	
TC/A.U.	:	To Be Assigned	
Examiner	:	To Be Assigned	
Docket No.	:	101249.56268US	
Customer No.	:	23911	
Title	:	Process Monitor and Semiconductor Manufacturing Apparatus	

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R §§ 1.97 AND 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

An English abstract summarizing the disclosure of the publications are submitted herewith.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a corresponding foreign Search Report citing such documents, together with an English-language version (if not already included) of that portion of the Search Report indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (1) no later than three months from the application's filing date or (2) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later), and therefore no certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

If necessary, the paper should be considered as a petition for consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d)(2) and that the petition fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d)(3) should be charged to Deposit Account 05-1323, Attorney Docket No.: 101249.56268US.

Respectfully submitted,

April 28, 2005

  
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Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				<i><b>Complete if Known</b></i>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>				Application Number	To Be Assigned
				Filing Date	Concurrently Herewith
				First Named Inventor	Mitsuhiko YUASA
				Art Unit	To Be Assigned
				Examiner Name	To Be Assigned
(use as many sheets as necessary)				Attorney Docket Number	101249.56268US
Sheet	1	of	1		

## **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

## **FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials'	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
		WO 00/68986	11/16/2000	Tokyo Electron Ltd.		
		JP 06-76193	3/18/1994	Seiko Epson Corp.		
		JP 2002-170925	6/14/2002	Yamatake Corp.		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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